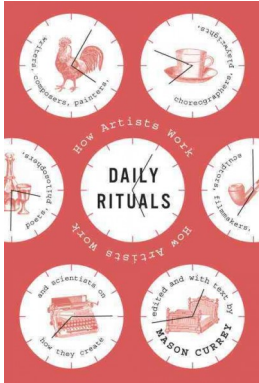


Writing

How Artists Work



[view in catalog](#)

ISBN:

9780307273604

Do you believe creative artists should be disciplined? Honor routines? Sit (or stand) at their desks, go to their studio every day? Or do you think they should be free spirits? Explore the world? Pound the pavements; hike in the woods? Visit coffee shops and saloons and meet people? Write or paint or compose as the feeling strikes them? Perhaps after delving into this book of 161 summaries of artists' routines, you will change your mind.

It's surprising how many of these creative spirits rise at sunbreak and commence work quickly. This book gets into the nitty gritty. Did you know that Beethoven made his own coffee every day? He routinely counted out sixty coffee beans. He also loved to bathe before a sink, splashing pitchers full of water over himself, but unfortunately, this water spilled on the floor and dribbled downstairs to his landlord's place, forcing the owner to put a concrete base under the great composer's sink. The esteemed composer's servants also had a laugh-fest each time he bathed because he did so while "bellowing up and down the scales." **[Read more »](#)**

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Posted by Dory L. on Apr 14, 2014 [Dory L.'s blog](#) [Add new comment](#)



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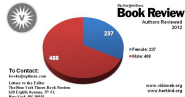
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The Count 2012



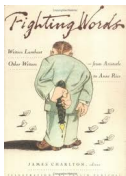
Every year [VIDA Women in Literary Arts](#) conducts a survey to count female author representation in major literary periodicals. This survey isn't about quality or good reviews, but just about the representation, number of reviews or general press coverage that women authors are getting. The results can be viewed through a wide variety of lenses, but the graphs are admittedly a little shocking.

It would be interesting to know how the publishing numbers break down, but a quick peek at the [New York Times Best Sellers](#) hardcover list of the top 16 titles shows an exact 50/50 female to male representation. Which to me (unsing completely unscientific methods) shows that books written by women are just as popular or being read in the same numbers as books written by men. [Read more »](#)

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Fighting Words



Not only do I spent a lot of time reading books, but I spend a lot of time reading *about* books. I recently ran across Flavorwire's article [The 30 Harshest Author-on-Author Insults In History](#) and I have to admit that I laughed out loud. Collected here are real quotes from authors about authors - disparaging in a cruel but also often funny way.

My favorite? Truman Capote on Jack Kerouac - "That's not writing, that's typing." Ha!

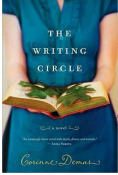
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The Writing Circle



This novel examines the writing process itself especially that nerve-wracking period

when an author first shares her work with other people. Nancy writes for a medical newsletter for a living; how ironic, she often thinks, that a doctor's daughter researches articles about prostate health, skin cancer, even *empty nest syndrome*, and then makes pronouncements about them in the voice of a medical practitioner rather than her own. Her novel is a deeply personal story, one that imagines her father's life beginning with the night he watched a couple say good-bye to their newborn daughter. Nancy has waited until after her father's death to imagine his story. And as in all fiction, the bare biographical facts are merely a springboard to the tale, not its actual foundation.

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